

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

SOLE/JOINT INVENTOR  
ORIGINAL/SUBSTITUTE/CIP

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: "Thermoplastic Railroad Cross-ties" as described in the specification [ ] attached or [x] of patent Application Serial No. 09/370,062 filed 24 August 1999 and amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; that I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application; that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representative or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application; and that I acknowledge the duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56(a). Such information is material when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) it establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) it refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant has taken or may take in:
  - (i) opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) asserting an argument of patentability.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign or U.S. provisional application(s) for patent or inventor's certificates listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
PCT	PCT/US98/16167	3 August 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35 United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as any subject matter of any claim of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States Application, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/128,216, filed 3 August 1998; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/611,911, filed 6 March 1996; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/843,823, filed 21 April 1997; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/022,226, filed 11 February 1998; International Patent Application No. PCT/US98/16167, filed 3 August 1998.

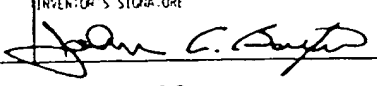
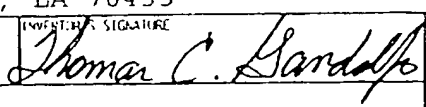
I hereby revoke any previous powers of attorney and appoint the following to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

SETH M. NEHRBASS, Reg. No. 31,281  
CHARLES C. GARVEY, JR., Reg. No. 27,889

GREGORY C. SMITH, Reg. No. 29,441  
STEPHEN R. DOODY, Reg. No. 29,062  
H. ROY BERKENSTOCK, Reg. No. 24,719  
BRETT A. NORTH, Reg. No. 42,040

Please direct all communications to: GARVEY, SMITH, NEHRBASS & DOODY,  
L.L.C., Three Lakeway Center, Suite 3290, 3838 North Causeway  
Boulevard, Metairie, LA 70002-1767,  
Tel.: (504) 835-2000; Fax: (504) 835-2070, to the attention of:  
SETH M. NEHRBASS.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and  
that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and  
further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false  
statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both,  
under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful  
false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent  
issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF FIRST JOINT INVENTOR John C. Bayer	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE 	DATE 11-11-99
RESIDENCE 16461 Bricker Road, Covington, LA 70433		CITIZENSHIP US
POST OFFICE ADDRESS 16461 Bricker Road, Covington, LA 70433		
FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR Thomas C. Gandolfo	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE 	DATE 11-11-99
RESIDENCE 77060 Highway 25, Covington, LA 70435-5754		CITIZENSHIP US
POST OFFICE ADDRESS 77060 Highway 25, Covington, LA 70435-5754		
FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
FULL NAME OF FOURTH JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE		CITIZENSHIP
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		